BRAD HOLMES

NIH-Cambridge Scholar 2005

Degree: Texas A&M University: B.S., Biochemistry, 2004

Research Interest: Biophysics, Bioinformatics & Computational Biology,

Structural Biology

Brad Holmes graduated *Summa Cum Laude* from Texas A&M University in 2004 with a Bachelors of Science in Biochemistry. He received numerous academic distinctions including Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, the ProdiGene Award for Scholarship and Research, a Goldwater Scholarship, a 2000 National Merit Scholarship, the Texas A&M Director's Excellence Scholarship and the Texas A&M President's Endowed Scholarship. Brad had outstanding research experiences, first by applying protein nuclear magnetic resonances as a method for high throughput ligand screening with Dr. Kevin Gardner at the UT Southwestern Medical Center. Next, he spent three years working as a part- and then full-time research assistant for Dr. Jerry Tsai on new algorithms to predict protein structures from linear sequence information. His work yielded a first author paper in *Protein Science* which is a tremendous achievement for an undergraduate research student. This was followed by a pair of co-authored studies and a second first author paper in the *Journal of Molecular Biology*. Brad is not only dedicated to establishing his academic career, but also has a passionate heart for his community. While still in high school, Brad volunteered to help manage a weekly distribution of food and other basic necessities to the homeless community of downtown Dallas. While in college, he was the Vice-President for the A&M chapter of Habitat for Humanity and helped construct several local homes. He's an Outreach Coordinator to inner city Bryan for First Baptist Church and has participated in mission trips to Costa Rica and Las Vegas. Brad views research as a rewarding challenge, "…and, in many ways, like a puzzle. Initially, the solution to the puzzle is not clear and it is quite overwhelming to see all of the individual pieces. But, through the discipline of hard work and long hours, the pieces slowly come together and the puzzle is completed to reveal the solution. Often, this is just another piece of a larger puzzle and thus, research is a legacy." Brad and his wife are celebrating the recent addition of a baby girl to their family.